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13 JUN 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Support

SUBJECT : Executive Director-Comptroller's Request for Statement of Action Being Taken on the Possible Subordination of OSA Communications to the Office of Communications

1. During the last two and a half years the possibility of the subordination of OSA communications to the Office of Communications has been considered. During this period the Office of Communications has worked closely with OSA and the OSA Communications Division to define the problems and consider possible solutions.

2. Early in 1968 it was agreed that because OXCART was to be phased out and because IDEALIST would be the only operational project of OSA, it would be possible and desirable to consolidate the OSA and the OC comcenters in the Headquarters area. It was agreed that a small, dedicated communications group would still be required within OSA to support the IDEALIST operations. It was further agreed that because OSA would continue to handle many of the R & D contracts for DD/S&T, the existing network of small, [] comcenters should remain under the jurisdiction of OSA. (There would be no increase in efficiency or any savings gained in a transfer to the Office of Communications.)

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3. In accordance with this agreement, the Office of Communications accepted the responsibility for operation of the OSA data comcenter, the OSA special comcenter in the Langley Building and the OSA comcenter in the [] Building on 1 July 1968.

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4. [] positions were transferred from OSA to the Office of Communications to man these comcenters. [] positions were used to man the [] Building comcenter and [] were used to man the special comcenter and the data comcenter. Prior to this transfer of responsibility, OSA had been using [] positions to do this job but, because OXCART was phasing out, it was expected that traffic volumes would decrease to the point where [] positions could handle the workload. Although Project OXCART is being phased out, other projects in DD/S&T have grown and have caused a net increase in message traffic. Data comcenter workload has increased significantly. The total workload has increased to the point that [] positions are now needed as compared to the [] positions transferred to OC to do the job. [] []

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5. Following this major step in the summer of 1968, the Office of Communications and OSA have studied, on a continuing basis, the possibility of further transfer of responsibility that might be possible and desirable. During the period of this further study, [redacted]

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[redacted] IDEALIST can best be served by a dedicated communications group working within OSA. [redacted]

[redacted] a somewhat larger communications group than was planned for the reduced IDEALIST Program will be required.

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6. The present conclusion is, therefore, that the dedicated communications group within OSA should be continued to provide the best and most efficient communications support to Projects IDEALIST and [redacted] and other projects of this nature. It is believed that no significant savings or efficiencies will accrue from transferring the [redacted] Comcenter network to OC jurisdiction. On the other hand, there appears to be OSA operational advantages to retaining the network under the jurisdiction of OSA.

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7. It is therefore recommended that no further action be taken at this time on subordinating the remaining OSA communication elements to the Office of Communications. The Office of Communications will, on a continuing basis, study the problems together with OSA and will make recommendations for changes when such changes appear to be feasible and desirable. It should be noted that the Director of Communications has a technical responsibility for the OSA network and the career responsibility for the Communications personnel assigned to the OSA activity. No duplication in communications facilities or circuits exist between OSA Communications and the Office of Communications. Where OC facilities and circuits are available, they are utilized. OSA establishes circuits and facilities only at locations not serviced by the normal Agency communications network. Continuing coordination between OC and the Chief, Communications Division, OSA is assured by the latter's regular attendance at OC Staff and other management meetings.

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Director of Communications

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CONCLUD.

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Director of Special Activities

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Deputy Director for Science & Technology

13 June 69
Date

10 July 69
Date

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